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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01761 030915Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-12 IO-13 /086 W
----------101236 030918Z /21
P R 030833Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9655
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, MPOL, KS
SUBJ: KOREAN MEDIA: SCANT MENTION OF MANSFIELD'S COMMENTS

REF: SEOUL 1697 (DTG 020848Z MAR 78)

SUMMARY: AMID HEAVY COVERAGE OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY INTERPELLA-
TIONS AND BUILD-UP TO "TEAM SPIRIT 78" EXERCISE, AMB MANS-
FIELD'S MARCH FIRST REMARKS ON DEFENSE OF KOREA RECEIVED FRONT-
PAGE NOTICE (SMALL STORY) IN KOREAN LANGUAGE PRESS. (ENGLISH
LANGUAGE PRESS GAVE SOMEWHAT BROADER COVERAGE.)

1. SOME KOREAN NEWSPAPERS MARCH 2-3 CARRIED SHORT FRONT PAGE
STORIES ON REMAKRS MADE MARCH 1 IN TOKYO PRESS CONFERENCE BY
AMB MANSFIELD ON AUTOMATIC INVOLVEMENT OF US GROUND TROOPS IF
WAR BREAKS OUT IN KOREA. TONGA ILBO, WHICH CARRIED MOST
COMPLETE COVERAGE THURSDAY, FOLLOWED UP WITH ONLY EDITORIAL
ON MARCH 3, NOTING THAT MANSFIELD'S COMMENTS, AND SECDEF
BROWN'S ABOUT A WEEK EARLIER, ARE EXPRESSIONS OF CARTER
ADMINISTRATION'S RESPECT FOR ITS DEFENSE COMMITMENTS TO
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KOREA.HOWEVER, TONGA WRITERS USED OCCASION TO
VOICE AGAIN THEIR UNHAPPINESS WITH FIVE-YEAR WITHDRAWAL
PLAN ITSELF, CALLING PLAN UNREASONABLE IN FACE OF
EXPANDING STRENGTH OF ENEMY, UNILATERAL, AND WITHOUT FIRM
MORAL FOUNDATION. RECALLING FEBRUARY 12 HUMPHREY-GLENN
REPORT, WHICH CALLED FOR PRUDENCE AT EVERY STAGE OF
WITHDRAWAL, WRITERS CRITICIZED UNPRECEDENTED ADVANCE

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL SCHEDULE. WRITERS POINTED
OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH STATEMENT ON AUTOMATIC INVOLVEMENT
IS WELCOME, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO PREVENT WARS
BEFORE THEY START AND CONCLUDED THAT WITHDRAWAL SHOULD
BE KEYED TO ACTIVITIES OF ENEMY, RATHER THAN TO PRE-
ANNOUNCED SCHEDULE.
STERN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SECURITY, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3124154
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, MPOL, KS, US
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Type: TE
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